



Press Release

PR-123-06

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On: TEXAS SPRING ONION PRODUCTION
UP 9.2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

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For Release: IMMEDIATELY (April 11, 2006)

Austin . . . The 2006 spring onion production in South Texas is expected to total 5.12 million hundredweight (cwt), up 9.2 percent from last year.

Based on the April 1 survey conducted by the USDA-NASS, Texas Field Office, yield is estimated at 320 cwt per acre, down 15 cwt from last year. Harvested acreage is estimated at 16,000 acres. Planted acreage is estimated at 17,600 acres, up 3.5 percent from the previous spring.

Producers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley expect to harvest 12,300 acres, up 21 percent from a year ago, with a yield of 325 cwt per acre.

In the San Antonio-Winter Garden and Laredo areas, harvest is forecast at 3,700 acres, down 3 percent from a year ago, with a yield of 305 cwt per acre.

United States producers expect to harvest this year's spring crop from 37,900 acres, up 7.4 percent from last year.

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TEXAS SPRING ONIONS: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION BY AREAS

Area	Area for harvest			Yield per acre ^{1/}			Production		
	2004	2005	2006 ^{2/}	2004	2005	2006 ^{2/}	2004	2005	2006 ^{2/}
	<u>Acres</u>			<u>Cwt</u>			<u>1,000 cwt</u>		
Rio Grande Valley	8,800	10,200	12,300	315	340	325	2,765	3,455	3,995
Winter Garden/Laredo ^{3/} . .	3,700	3,800	3,700	300	325	305	1,110	1,235	1,125
Total	12,500	14,000	16,000	310	335	320	3,875	4,690	5,120

^{1/} Derived to nearest 5 cwt. ^{2/} Preliminary. ^{3/} Includes San Antonio, Eagle Pass and Coastal Bend areas.